

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas Carol Service

The 1st Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2020 10 AM Blended

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OPENING HYMN *"Joy To The World"*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing, and Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

INVOCATION & CHRISTMAS SCRIPTURE SENTENCES

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Word became Flesh, and we have seen His glory.

Oh, come, let us worship Him! Alleluia!

Today Christ is born! Today salvation has appeared!

Today the righteous worship and say, "Glory to God in the highest!" Alleluia!

Come, all you peoples of the earth, and drink from the wells of the Saviour!

For He is our Maker! Alleluia!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins in the presence of Almighty God and one another:

(Silence for reflection)

Dear Heavenly Father:

We confess that we are sinful by our very nature, conceived and born in sin and death. We rebel against You in whatever we think, say, and do, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Even our righteous deeds are filthy rags. We have not let Your Word have its way with us. We have made other created things become gods in place of You, the Almighty God. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may be hearers and doers of Your Word, live out Your holy Will, and walk in Your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God be merciful to all of you and strengthen your faith.

Amen.

Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?

Yes.

Then let it be done for you as you believe. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SUNG KYRIE

Infant Holy tune

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, on Your people now, we pray.
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, for Your favour, Christ we pray.
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, help Your people, Lord, we pray;
Give us grace, O Lord, we pray; In Your Light, show us the Way.

CHRISTMAS HYMN OF PRAISE

Hark the Herald Angels

Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies
With the-angelic host proclaim
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: Lord God, help us, in all our dealings with one another, to be subject to you, the Father of all. May we follow the way of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who was faithful to your will, and gave up His life for us. We pray through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE SCRIPTURES

The Old Testament: *Numbers 6:22-27*

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *Galatians 3:23-29*

[St. Paul writes:] Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

"The First Noel"

The First No-el, the An-gels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel; Born is the King of Israel!

The Holy Gospel *St. Luke 2: 22-32*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him

what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Lord, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON SONG *"How Many Kings?"*

NEW

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UyiAnUE53U>

Follow the star to a place unexpected

Would you believe, after all we've projected,

A child in a manger?

Lowly and small, the weakest of all

Unlikeliest hero, wrapped in his mother's shawl

Just a child

Is this who we've waited for?

'Cause how many kings step down from their thrones

How many lords have abandoned their homes?

How many greats have become the least for me?

And how many gods have poured out their hearts

To romance a world that is torn all apart

How many fathers gave up their sons for me?

Bringing our gifts for the newborn Savior

All that we have, whether costly or meek

Because we believe

Gold for his honor, and frankincense for his pleasure

And myrrh for the cross he will suffer

Do you believe?

Is this who we've waited for?

How many kings step down from their thrones?

How many lords have abandoned their homes?

How many greats have become the least for me?

And how many gods have poured out their hearts

To romance a world that is torn all apart

How many fathers gave up their sons for me?

Only wanted that for me

How many kings step down from their thrones?

How many lords have abandoned their homes?

How many greats have become the least?

How many gods have poured out their hearts

To romance a world that is torn all apart?

How many fathers gave up their sons for me?

Only wanted that for me, oh

All for me, all for you

MESSAGE
THE CREEDAL SONG

Tune: "From Heav'n Above"

God's gift descends from Heav'n on High.
The Baby in the Manger lies.
Our Father has sent us His Son
That we with Him might now be one.

Christ Jesus is our Holy King!
To Him glad praises we shall sing!
Upon a cross deep sorrows bring;
He lives, so death has lost its sting!

The Spirit comes, the Church's seal!
Christ comes, in Water, Word and Meal!
With angels let us now proclaim
We do believe God's Saving Name!

Words: Wheatridge Lutheran Ministries, © 1975 USA

THE PRAYERS

God's Son grew up knowing the joy and pain of a human family. Let us pray to our Father in heaven that he would enrich our families and every family on earth.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you have made us glad through the birth of your Son and the celebration of Christmas this year. We thank you that your holy church has been honoured to share in the praise of angels in these days. When people come into your church, wherever it may be, help them to see your Son Jesus: to receive his presence, to listen to and keep his teaching, to behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Lord in Your Christmas joy: hear our prayer and bless us.

As your Son grew in wisdom and grace before you and all people, help all the children and young people of the church to learn your word and call upon you in prayer. Protect them from the evil one, and help them make the faith they have received their own. Be with parents as they seek to pass on the faith in those they meet who need the Good News of salvation. Give them grace not to give up in this tiring task.

Lord in Your Christmas joy: hear our prayer and bless us.

We give you thanks for our land and the blessings we receive from it. Bless and guide our leaders: her gracious Majesty our Queen, our Prime Minister and the government, the Parliament and all who hold office. May they promote justice and goodness, both for this generation and for the future. May all citizens have the will to serve their community, helping through their daily lives show how all spiritual hunger can find satisfaction in your newborn King. *Lord in Your Christmas joy: hear our prayer and bless us.*

Have mercy on the nations of the world, and all places that suffer violence, natural disasters, and daily hardship. May good people and peacemakers prosper. May evil doers repent, before they perish.

Lord in Your Christmas joy: **hear our prayer and bless us.**

Lord, you know our needs – we now commit to you those among us who are sick, dying or distressed. We especially lift up today...*[people named here...]*. Let the light of Christmas shine into their hearts, and may they accept your fatherly will with peace and joy. Comfort those who mourn the passing of loved ones.

Lord in Your Christmas joy: **hear our prayer and bless us.**

God our Father, we give you thanks for all you have done for us. Hear our prayers, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SUNG LORD'S PRAYER

"O Come, Little Children" German Carol melody

**Our Father, in Heav-en, most holy Your name.
Your Kingdom among us, Your will just the same
Give us dai-ly bre-ad; and for-given we be;
Lead not to tempt-a-tion; From evil – make free.**

**For Yours is the king-dom, o'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the pow'r now; all things You main-tain.
To You be the glory, re-sounding again
from all of creation, forever! A-men.**

BENEDICTION

Let us praise the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless and keep you; The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour and + give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"What Child Is This?"

Greensleeves

**What Child is this who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

**Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.**

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

WORSHIP NOTES

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